

2009 Eckhart Tolle on Ralph Waldo Emerson

[Speaker 1] (0:07 - 2:39)

What we commonly call man, or woman, the eating, drinking, planting, and counting man, eating, drinking, planting, counting, doing all kinds of things, what we commonly call man, the eating, drinking, planting, counting man, does not, as we know him, represent himself, but misrepresents himself. Him we do not respect, but the soul, whose organ he is, would he let it appear through his action, would make our knees bend. When it breathes through his intellect, it is genius.

When it breathes through his will, it is virtue. When it flows through his affection, it is love. And the blindness of the intellect begins when it would be something of itself.

The weakness of the will begins when the individual would be something of himself. So the blindness of the intellect begins with the belief that you are something of yourself, that's the mind, the self-serving mind. The weakness of the will begins when the individual would be something of himself, that's the ego, believing that you are an independent, autonomous, self-sufficient entity that has been put into this world from somewhere, not realizing you have come out of it, and you are an intrinsic part of the totality.

And so there comes the sense of separateness, of alienation, with that comes the continuous neediness of the ego, and with that comes the continuous underlying fear. It's always there when you're not connected, there's fear no matter what you may have achieved in the world of form, the fear will not leave you until the sense of separateness. It leaves you, you reconnect.